(c) whether the small cities have been indentified; and

(d) if so, the de tails thereof particularly small cities in Andhra Praoesh?

THE MINISTI :R OFCIV1LAVIATION (SHRISHARADYADAV): (a) to (d) To encourage sir ,iU aircraft (turbo-prop) operations to connect smaller and non-metro citiu . it has been decided to provide ATF to such aircraft at international pr:< t s *mtd* notify ATF as a declared good under the Central Sales Tax, 1956. Time frame for commencement of the services cannot be indicated at this stage sin cu opearators are free to connect places in their commercial judgement subj' ect to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for *cetf* ain mmitnum operations on specified category of routes.

Privatisation of **AAI**

1986. SHRI K. RAHM. \M KHAN: Wi 11 the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to stal e:

(a) whethe r a decision has b>:en taken to privatize Airports Authority of
India;

(b) if so, the operative aeas proposed to be privatized; and

(c) whether privatization w il9 Ive wholly indigenous?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL/ MIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, it has been dt titled to restructure the airports of the Airports Authority of India as and whe, i ift»und suitable through long-term lease. At present, the existing airports at D eilhv, Mumbai.Chennai and Calcutta are being taken up for this exercise. It is en rissiged that it would cover all areas of airport operations except, air traffic / air s_k **^ioe** management, customs, immigration and security.

(c) As per the policy on airport it tfrastructure, foreign equity participation in such ventures may be permitted up to *14%* with automatic approval and upto 100% with special permission. Sue h participation could also be by foreign " airport authorities.

Restoration of **Air** Bus Service b «tween **Delhi and Bhubaneswar**

1987. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KR'UNTIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for restoring Air-Bus service
form Delhi to Bhubaneswar and Bhubaneswar to Delhi instead of boeing; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Since the present capacity mets the requirement of passengers on Delhi-Bhubaneswar route and there is a capacity constraint, Indian Airlines have no plan to introduce A-320 service on Delhi- Bhubaneswar route.

Medical Checkup of Cabin Crew

1988. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cabin crew are subjected to annual medical checkup without formulating compensation policy in the event of medical grounding; and

(b) if so, whether such medical check-up is against the service rule?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) As per Regulation 47 of Air India Employees service regulations and secion 30 (c) and (d) of the standing orders, Female Cabin Crew (Air Hostesses) are required to undergo flying duties upto 35 years which may be extended to 50 years subject to their medical fitness for this purpose;. They are required to undergo biennial Medical examination after they attain 37 years of age upto 45 years of age and thereafter they are required to undergo medical examination on annual basis till they attain 50 years of age. A separate compensation policy in the form of annuity in the event of cabin crew being found medically unfit to perform duties of cabin Crew in set out in the Memorandum of Settlement of October 1972 signed between Air India and the then Air Corporation Employees Union. Male Cabin Crew are not required to undergo any corresponding medical examination because from the inception of service, the age of retirement of male Cabin Crew was 58 years without any question of an extention of service in their case.

In Indian Airlines, Flying Cabin Crew are retained in the service of the Company so long as they remain medically fit for duties but are retired on attaining the medical examination once a year after attaining the age of 35 years. There is also a Provisions for grant of annuity for medically unfit Cabin Crew at variable rates which forms part of the settlement signed with the representative Union.